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(state & regional)

TWO UM THINCLADS TO COMPETE IN NCAA TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

MISSOULA --

Two University of Montana track stars will compete in the NCAA Track and Field Championships Thursday through Saturday in Provo, Utah, Harley Lewis, UM track coach, said Monday.

Fred Friesz, Grizzly distance ace from Billings, and Willie Jones, Big Sky Conference champion in the 100 and 220-yard dashes, will take part in opening activities Thursday.

Friesz, who qualified for the six-mile run with a time of 29:59.4, will run in the finals of that event at 10:35 p.m. Thursday. Lewis said an effort is also being made to get Friesz into the three-mile run.

Jones, from Monroe, Michigan, set a new Big Sky Conference record in the 100-yard dash with a 9.4-second clocking, which also ranked him among the fastest sprinters in the nation.

Jones will run in the 100-yard dash trials which begin at 9 Thursday night. If he qualifies for the finals, he will run again Friday night at 9:45.

Coach Lewis will travel to Provo with the two athletes.